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OKLAHOMA LABOR MARKET

APRIL 1988

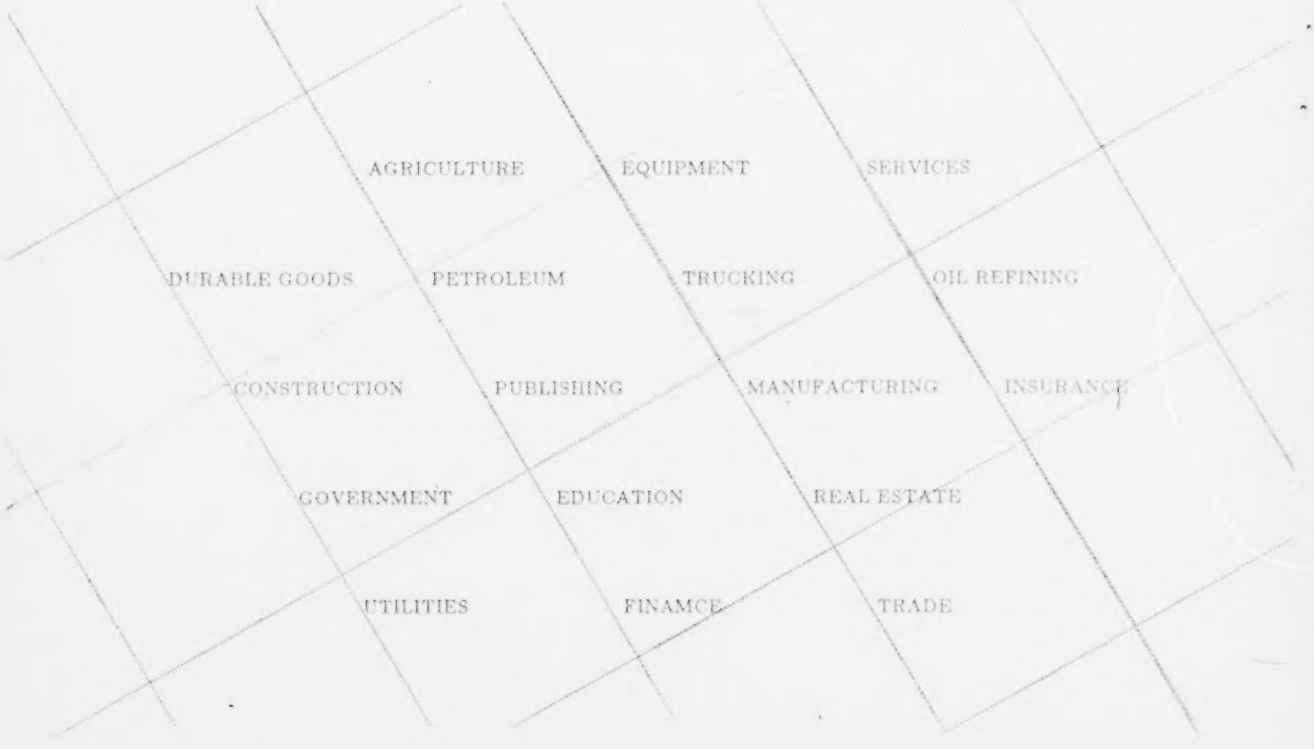
The Oklahoma Labor Market is published monthly by the Research Department of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

BOB FUNSTON,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Oklahoma Labor Market provides information from household and industry surveys. Employment, unemployment, insured claimant characteristics, hours and earnings data are compiled and analyzed.

BERNICE STREET, DIRECTOR
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
OKLAHOMA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE
WILL ROGERS MEMORIAL OFFICE BUILDING
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105



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UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DOWN

Total employment for April increased to 1,431,700, up 11,200 from March, while unemployment dropped by a similar amount, 11,400. The April estimate of Oklahoma's labor force, based on the latest household survey and adjusted to the most recent current population survey showed an almost immeasurable decrease of only 200 from the March level.

The 11,200 increase in employment, combined with the 10.9 percent decline in the number of unemployed, reduced the April jobless rate to 6.1 percent, a drop of 0.8 percent over the month. The current unemployment level and rate both stand lower than those registered in April of 1987; however, the current total civilian labor force figures indicates a withdrawal of 43,900 from the labor force over the past year.

While the month-to-month statistics showed improvement, the year-to-year comparisons continue to indicate a relative slowdown in the statewide economy.

PAYROLL SERIES SHOWS SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT

There was a 2,200 improvement in nonagricultural wage and salary employment between March and April. Nevertheless, the wage and salary job total remained 8,800 below the April 1987 level.

Over the month, increases in 5 of the 8 major industry divisions offset minor declines in 3 others. Best gainers were services (up 1,200) and trade (up 1,600). The only industry to suffer a major decline was government, where an 1,100 drop was attributed to employment falling in the federal sector.

Over the year, both manufacturing and services gained over 2,000 employees. Unfortunately, these gains were not large enough to offset the job losses in the remaining industry divisions. Consequently, the net effect resulted in wage and salary employment that was 8,800 lower than a year ago. The magnitude of the changes ranged from 4,500 drop in trade employment to a decline of 900 in the mining industry.

MANUFACTURING WAGES INCREASE

Weekly earnings of 110,900 manufacturing production workers, sampled in Oklahoma in April, averaged $429.53 compared with $414.10 for the comparable week in March. This gain resulted from the rise in the average hourly wage rate to $10.35, or 10 cents higher, and a 1.1 increase in the number of hours worked for the average week in March.

Durable goods components moved $18.00 higher based on a longer workweek and higher rates. Longer hours at a higher rate combined to add almost $11.00 to the average pay of the nondurable workers.

Results of the survey of the non-manufacturing industries showed that all components moved higher over the month.

Average weekly pay for all manufacturing workers, compared to a year ago, moved up $20.00 on the strength of higher wage rates, supplemented by a slight increase in hours worked. Durable goods workers moved sharply up by $37.00 because of steadily increasing wage rates. Nondurables fell by $9.00 due to lower wage rates.

UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS AGAIN

The April jobless rates declined in 71 counties and increased in only 6 compared to March. Unemployment rates also showed significant improvement in all 4 of the Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

The county and area rates follow closely the statewide rate, which fell to 6.1 percent versus 6.9 percent in March, and also the National rate which was reduced to 5.3 percent from 5.9 percent over the same time frame. Only 7 counties now have double digit jobless rates.

Year ago comparisons also show improvement in the Oklahoma jobless picture. During this period, 69 counties reduced their unemployment rates and 8 recorded increases. With the exception of Lawton, all of the MSA's have lower unemployment than a year ago.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ALL URBAN CONSUMERS - 117.1

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (UNADJUSTED)	
UNITED STATES	5.3%
OKLAHOMA	6.1%
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	4.9%
TULSA MSA	6.8%
LAWTON MSA	5.5%
ENID MSA	5.3%

AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS IN MANUFACTURING (UNADJUSTED)	
UNITED STATES	41.0
OKLAHOMA	41.5
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	41.3
TULSA MSA	41.2

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS
OKLAHOMA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	PRODUCTION WORKERS	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	APR 1988p	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	110.9	429.53	414.10	409.44	41.5	40.4	40.7	10.35	10.25	10.06
Durable Goods	70.8	464.52	446.63	427.63	42.0	40.9	41.0	11.06	10.92	10.43
Stone,Clay & Glass	8.1	483.99	459.65	459.12	44.2	42.6	41.7	10.95	10.79	11.01
Primary Metal Ind.	3.0	408.79	441.38	446.46	42.1	43.4	43.9	9.71	10.17	10.17
Fab.Metal Products	10.4	382.22	367.52	350.55	41.5	40.7	39.7	9.21	9.03	8.83
Fab.Struct.Metals	4.2	376.74	367.79	325.92	41.4	41.7	38.8	9.10	8.82	8.40
Mach.Except Elect.	21.2	466.15	446.08	420.64	42.3	41.0	44.0	11.02	10.88	9.56
Oil Field Machinery	3.8	420.60	388.63	375.18	42.7	39.9	34.9	9.85	9.74	10.75
Elec.& Elec. Equip.	6.0	463.01	441.50	411.08	41.6	41.3	39.3	11.13	10.69	10.46
Transport. Equip.	15.6	563.70	537.21	509.74	40.7	38.9	38.5	13.85	13.81	13.24
Instr./Related Prod	1.8	484.02	495.04	451.35	44.9	45.5	45.0	10.78	10.88	10.03
Non-Durable Goods	40.1	368.24	357.19	377.88	40.6	39.6	40.2	9.07	9.02	9.40
Food & Kindred Prod	8.3	329.47	318.77	322.55	41.6	40.3	41.3	7.92	7.91	7.81
Apparel & Other Text.	8.0	185.04	188.80	175.63	36.0	36.1	33.2	5.14	5.23	5.29
Paper & Allied Prod.	2.7	455.27	414.39	455.55	45.3	41.9	44.1	10.05	9.89	10.33
Printing & Publish.	5.4	375.57	400.00	413.09	39.0	40.9	41.6	9.63	9.78	9.93
Newspapers & Period.	1.7	323.64	358.14	404.19	34.8	38.1	39.9	9.30	9.40	10.13
Petroleum Refining	3.8	590.92	509.44	561.96	44.0	39.8	42.0	13.43	12.80	13.38
Non-Manufacturing										
Oil & Gas Extract.	19.6	485.20	471.55	486.62	42.9	41.4	43.8	11.31	11.39	11.11
Construction	24.7	444.00	419.12	436.57	40.0	38.7	38.6	11.10	10.83	11.31
Public Utilities	21.5	520.42	491.70	509.29	41.6	38.9	42.3	12.51	12.64	12.04
Wholesale Trade	45.4	388.85	375.77	380.63	39.8	38.9	39.2	9.77	9.66	9.71
*Retail Trade	116.1	191.58	185.65	196.15	30.9	29.8	30.6	6.20	6.23	6.41

**Excludes eating and drinking establishments.*

OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE
SUMMARY TABLE

(*By Place of Residence)

ITEM	NUMBER (In Thousands) APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	PERCENT CHANGE MAR 88 APR 88	ABSOLUTE CHANGE MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,525.0	1,525.2	1,568.9	0.0	-0.2	-43.9
Unemployment	93.3	104.7	124.0	-10.9	-11.4	-30.7
Unemployment Rate	6.1	6.9	7.9	xxx	xxx	xxx
Total Employment	1,431.7	1,420.5	1,444.9	0.8	11.2	-13.2
Domestic Service-Self-Employed-Unpaid Family Workers	135.9	131.8	135.2	3.1	4.1	0.7
Idled by Labor Disputes	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3

*Labor force data refers to place of residence, as required by the U. S Department of Labor. As a result, these estimates remove the effect of multiple jobholders and nonresident commuters included in wage and salary employment on a place-of-work basis. Workers idled by labor disputes are counted in total employment.

p=preliminary
r=revised

NON-AGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

(By place of Work)

INDUSTRY	NUMBER (In Thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE	ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	MAR 88 APR 88	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
Total Wage & Salary Workers	1,095.6	1,093.4	1,104.4	0.2	2.2	-8.8
Manufacturing	155.1	154.6	153.0	0.3	0.5	2.1
Durable Goods	96.0	95.7	94.3	0.3	0.3	1.7
Lumber & Wood Prod.	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.1
Stone,Clay & Glass Prod.	10.0	9.7	10.4	3.1	0.3	-0.4
Primary Metal Industries	4.1	4.2	3.9	-2.4	-0.1	0.2
Fabricated Metal Prod.	13.9	14.3	13.5	-2.8	-0.4	0.4
Fab.Struct.Metal Prod.	6.3	6.5	6.2	-3.1	-0.2	0.1
Machinery Exc.Electrical	30.0	29.9	28.7	0.3	0.1	1.3
Constr. & Related Mach.	9.8	9.5	9.0	3.2	0.3	0.8
Oil Field Machinery	6.2	6.0	5.3	3.3	0.2	0.9
Gen.Industrial Mach.	4.8	4.8	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.4
Elect.& Electronic Equip.	8.8	8.8	8.9	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Transportation Equip.	19.4	19.2	19.7	1.0	0.2	-0.3
Motor Vehicle & Equip.	11.0	10.8	11.4	1.9	0.2	-0.4
Aircraft & Parts	7.6	7.6	7.7	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Instruments & Rel.Prod.	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.1
Non-Durable Goods	59.1	58.9	58.7	0.3	0.2	0.4
Food & Kindred Prod.	13.7	13.9	13.6	-1.4	-0.2	0.1
Apparel & Textile Prod.	8.9	8.7	8.4	2.3	0.2	0.5
Paper & Allied Prod.	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	0.0	0.1
Printing & Publishing	10.9	10.8	11.3	0.9	0.1	-0.4
Newspapers & Period.	5.5	5.4	6.0	1.9	0.1	-0.5
Petroleum & Coal Prod.	7.1	7.1	7.3	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Petroleum Refining	6.4	6.5	6.6	-1.5	-0.1	-0.2
Rubber/Misc.Plast.Prod.	10.9	10.8	10.5	0.9	0.1	0.4
Tires & Inner Tubes	5.9	5.9	5.7	0.0	0.0	0.2
Non-Manufacturing	940.5	938.8	951.4	0.2	1.7	-10.9
Mining	44.3	44.2	45.2	0.2	0.1	-0.9
Oil & Gas Extraction	41.6	41.5	42.5	0.2	0.1	-0.9
Construction	31.7	31.3	33.3	1.3	0.4	-1.6
HV Const.Contractors	7.4	7.2	7.8	2.8	0.2	-0.4
Transp.& Pub. Utilities	60.9	61.3	63.3	-0.7	-0.4	-2.4
Transportation	32.9	33.1	33.6	-0.6	-0.2	-0.7
Railroad Transportation	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Trucking & Warehousing	15.5	15.8	16.2	-1.9	-0.3	-0.7
Pipe Lines,exc.Nat.Gas	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
Comm.&Elec/Gas/San Service	28.0	28.2	29.7	-0.7	-0.2	-1.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	262.6	261.0	267.1	0.6	1.6	-4.5
Wholesale Trade	58.5	58.6	58.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.5
Retail Trade	204.1	202.4	209.1	0.8	1.7	-5.0
Gen.Merchandise Stores	27.4	27.4	27.7	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Department Stores	11.5	11.6	11.7	-0.9	-0.1	-0.2
Food Stores	35.9	35.9	37.1	0.0	0.0	-1.2
Auto.Dlrs/Ser.Station	24.8	24.8	24.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Apparel & Acces.Stores	12.2	12.3	13.0	-0.8	-0.1	-0.8
Fin,Insur.& Real Estate	57.0	57.1	59.6	-0.2	-0.1	-2.6
Banking	18.3	18.3	19.5	0.0	0.0	-1.2
Credit Agenc.OT Banks	9.4	9.4	9.8	0.0	0.0	-0.4
Insurance Carriers	7.9	7.9	8.8	0.0	0.0	-0.9
Services	232.5	231.3	230.3	0.5	1.2	2.2
Hotels & Lodging Places	11.7	11.6	11.7	0.9	0.1	0.0
Personal Services	12.7	12.5	12.3	1.6	0.2	0.4
Motion Pictures	1.3	1.3	1.5	0.0	0.0	-0.2
Health Services	75.2	74.7	73.1	0.7	0.5	2.1
Hospitals	29.8	29.7	28.3	0.3	0.1	1.5
Educational Services	13.4	13.1	13.2	2.3	0.3	0.2
Government, Total	251.5	252.6	252.6	-0.4	-1.1	-1.1
Federal Government	50.0	50.2	52.7	-0.4	-0.2	-2.7
State and Local Government	201.5	202.4	199.9	-0.4	-0.9	1.6
*State Government	71.8	71.5	70.5	0.4	0.3	1.3
Local Government	129.7	130.9	129.4	-0.9	-1.2	0.3

p=preliminary
r=revised

* Employment levels for State Government as measured by full-time (FTE) are as follows; APRIL, 1988 = 57,753. A FTE is based on a 40-hour work week and an average 173-hour work month. The FTE count is determined by dividing total person-hours worked per month by 173.

APRIL 1988
OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE DATA
METROPOLITAN AREAS AND COUNTIES

	AREA	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	APR 88	MAR 88	APR 87
	U. S.	113,905,000	6,359,000	120,264,000	5.3	5.9	6.2
	OKLAHOMA	1,431,700	93,300	1,525,000	6.1	6.9	7.9
	COUNTIES						
1	ADAIR	7,700	520	8,220	6.3	6.8	8.3
2	ALFALFA	3,260	100	3,360	3.0	3.2	4.0
3	ATOKA	8,010	580	8,590	6.8	7.4	8.6
4	BEAVER	2,890	110	3,000	3.7	4.8	3.5
5	BECKHAM	7,190	620	7,810	7.9	9.0	11.9
6	BLAINE	5,960	280	6,240	4.5	5.6	6.8
7	BRYAN	13,760	750	14,510	5.2	5.3	7.1
8	CADDO	11,320	1,130	12,450	9.1	10.2	10.2
9	CANADIAN	33,700	1,675	35,375	4.7	5.9	6.4
10	CARTER	19,000	1,300	20,300	6.4	7.6	10.0
11	CHEROKEE	15,250	1,210	16,460	7.4	7.8	9.2
12	CHOCTAW	4,840	530	5,370	9.9	12.3	13.8
13	CIMARRON	1,690	80	1,770	4.5	5.0	4.4
14	CLEVELAND	80,200	3,475	83,675	4.2	4.9	5.8
15	COAL	2,370	370	2,740	13.5	13.6	13.2
16	COMANCHE	47,125	2,725	49,850	5.5	5.8	5.1
17	COTTON	3,060	140	3,200	4.4	5.8	4.1
18	CRAIG	6,170	420	6,590	6.4	7.3	9.9
19	CREEK	25,950	2,250	28,200	8.0	9.1	11.5
20	CUSTER	13,300	660	13,960	4.7	5.6	6.2
21	DELAWARE	11,370	780	12,150	6.4	7.7	8.3
22	DEWEY	2,220	110	2,330	4.7	6.1	8.6
23	ELLIS	3,130	100	3,230	3.1	3.8	4.1
24	GARFIELD	28,200	1,575	29,775	5.3	5.9	7.8
25	GARVIN	11,800	730	12,530	5.8	6.6	9.8
26	GRADY	16,750	1,330	18,080	7.4	8.2	9.7
27	GRANT	3,000	90	3,090	2.9	3.1	5.1
28	GREER	2,810	110	2,920	3.8	4.9	5.0
29	HARMON	1,680	120	1,800	6.7	8.2	7.3
30	HARPER	2,230	140	2,370	5.9	4.9	4.6
31	HASKELL	3,870	480	4,350	11.0	13.4	14.0
32	HUGHES	4,490	740	5,230	14.1	16.2	16.4
33	JACKSON	10,440	710	11,150	6.4	5.8	7.1
34	JEFFERSON	3,570	210	3,780	5.6	6.5	10.1
35	JOHNSTON	3,850	220	4,070	5.4	6.0	6.6
36	KAY	24,725	1,325	26,050	5.1	5.7	7.6
37	KINGFISHER	6,310	300	6,610	4.5	5.5	7.8
38	KIOWA	4,920	250	5,170	4.8	4.6	5.7
39	LATIMER	4,310	320	4,630	6.9	9.2	11.7
40	LEFLORE	18,320	1,220	19,540	6.2	7.4	7.9
41	LINCOLN	11,330	1,110	12,440	8.9	10.0	10.7
42	LOGAN	13,290	600	13,890	4.3	5.8	5.8
43	LOVE	3,940	200	4,140	4.8	5.6	6.5
44	McCLAIN	10,620	640	11,260	5.7	5.6	6.6
45	McCURTAIN	13,870	1,110	14,980	7.4	7.9	10.1

COUNTIES	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	APR 88	MAR 88	APR 87
46 McINTOSH	6,510	—350	6,860	5.1	6.4	5.8
47 MAJOR	3,420	230	3,650	6.3	6.6	8.5
48 MARSHALL	4,330	280	4,610	6.1	6.2	6.5
49 MAYES	13,160	1,890	15,050	12.6	9.5	10.9
50 MURRAY	5,410	440	5,850	7.5	9.2	10.3
51 MUSKOGEE	29,125	2,700	31,825	8.5	9.4	8.9
52 NOBLE	4,760	240	5,000	4.8	5.5	7.4
53 NOWATA	3,970	330	4,300	7.7	12.9	10.8
54 OKFUSKEE	5,730	570	6,300	9.0	8.3	8.6
55 OKLAHOMA	308,750	16,375	325,125	5.0	5.7	6.2
56 OKMULGEE	13,775	1,525	15,300	10.0	11.1	10.3
57 OSAGE	15,750	1,050	16,800	6.3	6.7	6.5
58 OTTAWA	11,175	1,000	12,175	8.2	8.9	16.2
59 PAWNEE	7,150	650	7,800	8.3	9.8	10.3
60 PAYNE	30,700	1,325	32,025	4.1	4.7	5.1
61 PITTSBURG	16,625	1,875	18,500	10.1	11.8	11.2
62 PONTOTOC	16,540	1,070	17,610	6.1	6.5	7.7
63 POTTAWATOMIE	25,250	1,625	26,875	6.0	6.8	8.6
64 PUSHMATAHA	4,700	290	4,990	5.8	6.5	7.7
65 ROGER MILLS	1,990	170	2,160	7.9	7.4	9.4
66 ROGERS	22,100	2,000	24,100	8.3	8.0	10.4
67 SEMINOLE	9,310	1,150	10,460	11.0	11.2	13.2
68 SEQUOYAH	16,880	850	17,730	4.8	5.9	6.4
69 STEPHENS	16,030	1,200	17,230	7.0	8.0	13.0
70 TEXAS	7,980	350	8,330	4.2	4.9	9.2
71 TILLMAN	4,430	310	4,740	6.5	6.2	8.0
72 TULSA	231,275	16,250	247,525	6.6	7.5	8.6
73 WAGONER	18,900	1,480	20,380	7.3	7.9	8.7
74 WASHINGTON	23,040	1,070	24,110	4.4	5.1	6.4
75 WASHITA	5,250	370	5,620	6.6	7.7	10.1
76 WOODS	5,560	160	5,720	2.8	4.3	4.0
77 WOODWARD	8,280	650	8,930	7.3	7.5	11.0
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	471,800	24,400	496,200	4.9	5.7	6.3
TULSA MSA	314,000	23,000	337,000	6.8	7.6	8.8

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

A	-NORTHWEST	34,000	1,700	35,700	4.8
B	-SOUTHWEST	47,600	3,000	50,600	5.9
C	-NORTH CENTRAL	79,600	4,100	83,700	4.9
D	-SOUTH CENTRAL	112,900	7,700	120,600	6.4
E	-CENTRAL	367,000	19,000	386,000	4.9
F	-TULSA	273,000	19,600	292,600	6.7
G	-EAST CENTRAL	94,000	7,200	101,200	7.1
H	-SOUTHERN	89,000	5,900	94,900	6.2
I	-NORTHEAST	91,000	7,500	98,500	7.6
J	-EASTERN	108,200	8,600	116,800	7.4
K	-SOUTHEAST	66,500	5,800	72,300	8.0
L	-CLEVELAND	69,000	3,200	72,200	4.4

OKLAHOMA CITY
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	397.2	397.4	400.2	-0.2	-3.0
MANUFACTURING	46.9	47.0	46.7	-0.1	0.2
DURABLE GOODS	32.3	32.3	32.1	0.0	0.2
Primary & Fabricated Metals	4.2	4.3	4.2	-0.1	0.0
Fab.Struc.Metal Products	1.7	1.8	1.6	-0.1	0.1
Machinery	13.7	13.6	13.7	0.1	0.0
Mach. Except Electric	10.8	10.7	10.8	0.1	0.0
Electric & Electronic Equip.	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment	10.2	10.1	9.9	0.1	0.3
NON-DURABLE GOODS	14.6	14.7	14.6	-0.1	0.0
Food and Kindred Products	5.1	5.1	5.0	0.0	0.1
Printing & Publishing	4.2	4.2	4.3	0.0	-0.1
MINING	11.1	11.1	11.5	0.0	-0.4
CONSTRUCTION	12.2	12.1	12.1	0.1	0.1
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	19.1	19.1	19.8	0.0	-0.7
Transportation	9.3	9.3	9.3	0.0	0.0
Comm. & Public Utilities	9.8	9.8	10.5	0.0	-0.7
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	98.4	98.3	100.0	0.1	-1.6
Wholesale Trade	22.1	22.0	22.1	0.1	0.0
Retail Trade	76.3	76.3	77.9	0.0	-1.6
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	23.7	23.9	24.9	-0.2	-1.2
Banking	5.6	5.6	6.2	0.0	-0.6
Credit Agencies Other Than Bank	4.0	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0
Insurance Carriers	4.6	4.6	4.8	0.0	-0.2
SERVICES	88.9	88.7	88.0	0.2	0.9
Health Services	26.2	25.8	25.3	0.4	0.9
Hospitals	11.8	11.6	11.2	0.2	0.6
Educational Services	4.8	4.7	4.8	0.1	0.0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	96.9	97.2	97.2	-0.3	-0.3
Total Federal Government	28.4	28.6	30.2	-0.2	-1.8
Total State/Local Gover.	68.5	68.6	67.0	-0.1	1.5
Total State Government	34.2	34.2	33.4	0.0	0.8
Total Local Government	34.3	34.4	33.6	-0.1	0.7

p=preliminary
r=revised

OKLAHOMA CITY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Oklahoma, Canadian, Cleveland, Logan, McClain and Pottawatomie Counties)

Oklahoma City Metropolitan Area employment climbed to an estimated 471,800, a 1,500 jump over the revised estimate for March. This increase is the best for the March-April period over the last three years and is in marked contrast to 1985 when employment fell by more than 6,000. The employment increase, combined with a 13 percent drop in the number of unemployed, produced a jobless rate of 4.9 percent. While the current level of employment - a key economic indicator - has not matched last April, the current trend is showing slight progress.

Led by decreased hiring in government and finance-insurance-real estate; the Oklahoma City MSA showed an estimated 200 drop in wage and salary jobs in April. Government employment fell by 300 while finance-insurance-real estate lost 200 positions. Services gained 200 over the month, due primarily to expansion of employment in the health service industry. All other major divisions either lost or gained a minimum of 100, or were unchanged from March.

Total nonagricultural employment was still 3,000 below last April, but a more positive job market is beginning to emerge in several key industries. Manufacturing, construction, and the service industry moved up from a year ago. A majority of the net job loss over the year can be traced to retail trade and the finance-insurance-real estate industry.

An advance of nearly $15.00 in the average weekly paychecks of 34,200 manufacturing production workers in the Oklahoma City MSA was estimated for April. More hours worked, overtime pay and shift pay differential was primarily responsible for the increased earnings in most industry components. The earnings gain was shared by workers producing both durable and nondurable goods. With the exception of printing and publishing, all other manufacturing components had increased pay in April.

OKLAHOMA CITY
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	496,200	498,500	508,400	-2,300	-12,200
Unemployment	24,400	28,200	32,100	-3,800	-7,700
Unemployment Rate	4.9	5.7	6.3	xxx	xxx
Employment	471,800	470,300	476,300	1,500	-4,500

OKLAHOMA CITY
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	477.02	462.18	442.58	41.3	40.4	39.8	11.55	11.44	11.12
Durable Goods	514.95	498.56	459.81	41.9	41.0	39.3	12.29	12.16	11.70
Prim. & Fab. Metals	415.87	398.58	389.30	45.5	44.2	43.4	9.14	9.02	8.97
Machinery	533.40	515.79	468.85	42.0	41.9	39.3	12.70	12.31	11.93
Nondurable Goods	375.71	365.88	393.46	39.8	38.8	40.9	9.44	9.43	9.62
Food & Kindred Products	317.05	310.13	323.18	40.7	40.7	40.6	7.79	7.62	7.96
Printing & Pub.	383.00	390.83	410.01	36.2	37.4	38.9	10.58	10.45	10.54

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	APR 1988	MAR 1988	APR 1987	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	287.3	286.8	287.5	0.5	-0.2
MANUFACTURING	47.7	47.6	46.7	0.1	1.0
DURABLE GOODS	36.6	36.5	35.8	0.1	0.8
Stone,Clay & Glass Products	3.6	3.6	3.7	0.0	-0.1
Primary & Fabricated Metals	10.1	10.3	9.5	-0.2	0.6
Primary Metal Industries	1.8	1.8	1.6	0.0	0.2
Fabricated Metal Products	8.3	8.5	7.9	-0.2	0.4
Fab. Struc.Metal Products	4.1	4.2	3.8	-0.1	0.3
Machinery	12.8	12.7	12.4	0.1	0.4
Mach.Except Electric	9.6	9.5	9.4	0.1	0.2
Const.& Related Machinery	3.8	3.7	3.5	0.1	0.3
Electric & Electronic Equip.	3.2	3.2	3.0	0.0	0.2
Transportation Equipment	7.3	7.1	7.8	0.2	-0.5
NON-DURABLE GOODS	11.1	11.1	10.9	0.0	0.2
Printing & Publishing	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	1.9	2.0	1.9	-0.1	0.0
MINING	15.0	15.0	15.2	0.0	-0.2
CONSTRUCTION	9.2	9.0	10.2	0.2	-1.0
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.7	23.6	23.1	0.1	0.6
Transportation	15.6	15.5	15.1	0.1	0.5
Comm.& Public Utilities	8.1	8.1	8.0	0.0	0.1
TRADE	68.8	69.1	69.7	-0.3	-0.9
Wholesale Trade	17.6	17.6	17.5	0.0	0.1
Retail Trade	51.2	51.5	52.2	-0.3	-1.0
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	17.1	16.9	17.2	0.2	-0.1
Banking	4.1	4.2	4.6	-0.1	-0.5
SERVICES	69.8	69.5	69.3	0.3	0.5
Health Services	22.3	22.3	21.7	0.0	0.6
Hospitals	11.9	11.9	11.5	0.0	0.4
Educational Services	4.3	4.3	4.8	0.0	-0.5
GOVERNMENT	36.0	36.1	36.1	-0.1	-0.1
Federal	4.1	4.0	4.4	0.1	-0.3
State	6.0	5.7	5.1	0.3	0.9
Local	25.9	26.4	26.6	-0.5	-0.7

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA METROPOLITAN AREA

(Tulsa, Creek, Osage, Rogers and Wagoner Counties)

Total employment in the Tulsa MSA remained at 314,000 during April. At the same time, unemployment plunged 3,000 lower to provide the stimulus for the reduced 6.9 percent unemployment rate. Over the year comparisons indicate unemployment declined by 7,800 or 25 percent, but employment also faltered to 3,600 below the April, 1987 level. The total labor force contracted by three percent or 11,400 over the past year. This is comparable to the reductions experienced statewide and attributed to such factors as early retirement, out-migration, people returning to or remaining in school, and those who have given up looking for jobs.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment for the five county Tulsa MSA totaled 287,300 in April. Employment increased for five of the eight major industries, while two experienced declines and the mining industry was unchanged. Retail trade decreased by 300 jobs and government employment was 100 lower. The remaining five industries experienced slight growth ranging from 100 to 300 employees each for a combined gain of 900 jobs. An overall 500 job increase was indicated for the month.

Year-to-year comparisons showed three industries with moderate employment growth, and five industries with losses, for a net decline of 200 jobs since April, 1987. Manufacturing employment expanded by 1,000, transportation-public utilities added 600 workers, and services grew by 500 jobs over the year. Construction and retail trade topped the losers with employment reductions of 1,000 each. Smaller annual losses in the range of 100 to 200 each were recorded in the mining, government, and finance-insurance-real estate industries.

The average weekly pay for the estimated 30,100 manufacturing production workers in the Tulsa MSA was $448.67 during April. A small increase in average hourly earnings tempered by a slightly shorter average work week resulted in the $4.00 earnings increase since March. Durable goods worker's paychecks were nearly $5.00 higher as weekly hours and hourly pay both edged up. Non-durable goods workers' earnings were over $7.00 higher as hourly pay increased 34 cents and weekly hours dropped by .7 of an hour during the month.

Comparison with a year ago reveals a $20.00 increase in average weekly pay. Increases in both hourly earnings and weekly hours for durable goods workers were the major factors in the year-to-year weekly earnings increase.

TULSA
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER APR 1988p	NUMBER MAR 1988r	NUMBER APR 1987r	ABSOLUTE CHANGE MAR 88 APR 88	ABSOLUTE CHANGE APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	337,000	340,000	348,400	-3,000	-11,400
Unemployment	23,000	26,000	30,800	-3,000	-7,800
Unemployment Rate	6.8	7.6	8.8	XXX	XXX
Employment	314,000	314,000	317,600	0	-3,600

TULSA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS APR 1988p	WEEKLY EARNINGS MAR 1988r	WEEKLY EARNINGS APR 1987r	WEEKLY HOURS APR 1988p	WEEKLY HOURS MAR 1988r	WEEKLY HOURS APR 1987r	HOURLY EARNINGS APR 1988p	HOURLY EARNINGS MAR 1988r	HOURLY EARNINGS APR 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	448.67	444.39	428.09	41.2	41.3	40.5	10.89	10.76	10.57
Durable goods	464.39	459.54	437.26	41.5	41.4	40.3	11.19	11.10	10.85
Prim & Fab. Metals	412.68	406.73	370.00	42.5	42.5	40.0	9.71	9.57	9.25
Machinery	415.14	419.43	380.05	40.7	41.0	38.9	10.20	10.23	9.77
Non-Durable Goods	380.55	373.32	387.28	40.1	40.8	41.2	9.49	9.15	9.40
Printing & Pub	402.88	438.95	462.71	37.9	41.1	43.9	10.63	10.68	10.54

p=preliminary
r=revised

ENID METROPOLITAN AREA

(Garfield County)

The unemployment rate for the Enid MSA moved lower during April to 5.3 percent, as compared to the March rate of 5.9 percent, and well below last years figure of 7.8 percent. The dominating factor in this shrinking unemployment rate has been the large reduction in number of unemployed. Unemployment declined by ten percent during the month and is down by one-third from a year ago. Employment growth was sluggish with an expansion of less than one percent indicated over the year. Total labor force decreased at an annual rate of two percent.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment was estimated at 21,700 during April, the same as the revised March figure. Employment levels in each of the eight major industries also remained unchanged for the month. The extremely modest growth of only 100 jobs was indicated since April, 1987. While the services industry employment expanded by 400 over the year, declines of 100 jobs each are reflected for the government, trade, and transportation-public utilities industries. Employment in the other four industries was unchanged from last year and very little variance from their present levels has occurred over the entire year.

ENID
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	29,775	29,875	30,375	-100	-600
Unemployment	1,575	1,750	2,375	-175	-800
Unemployment Rate	5.3	5.9	7.8	xxx	xxx
Employment	28,200	28,125	28,000	75	200

ENID
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	21.7	21.7	21.6	0.0	0.1
MANUFACTURING	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
DURABLE GOODS	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-0.1
NON-DURABLE GOODS	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	0.1
MINING	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0	-0.1
TRADE	6.2	6.2	6.3	0.0	-0.1
Wholesale Trade	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	4.8	4.8	4.8	0.0	0.0
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
SERVICES	5.7	5.7	5.3	0.0	0.4
GOVERNMENT	3.5	3.5	3.6	0.0	-0.1
Federal	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
State	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.0	-0.1
Local	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0

p=preliminary
r=revised

LAWTON METROPOLITAN AREA

(Comanche County)

Total April employment in the Lawton area was estimated to have reached 47,125, an increase of 25 above the March level, but still 275 below the April 1987 figure. With unemployment and the labor force declining over the month, the unemployment rate moved down to 5.5 percent.

At 33,600, the total wage and salary employment was unchanged in April from the March revised estimate. The 100 drop in government jobs was offset by the 100 gain in trade employment. All other major divisions were static over the March-April estimation period.

The majority of the 500 year-to-year wage and salary decline continues to be centered in the trade and transportation-public utilities industries. Job growth in services continues to be the bright spot and Lawton leads in job stability among the published series of metropolitan areas.

LAWTON
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	49,850	50,025	49,925	-175	-75
Unemployment	2,725	2,925	2,525	-200	200
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.8	5.1	xxx	xxx
Employment	47,125	47,100	47,400	25	-275

LAWTON
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	APR 1988p	MAR 1988r	APR 1987r	MAR 88 APR 88	APR 87 APR 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	33.6	33.6	34.1	0.0	-0.5
MANUFACTURING	3.4	3.4	3.5	0.0	-0.1
DURABLE GOODS	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.0	-0.1
NON-DURABLE GOODS	3.0	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.0	-0.1
CONSTRUCTION	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	0.0
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	1.2	1.2	1.5	0.0	-0.3
TRADE	8.4	8.3	8.6	0.1	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	7.4	7.3	7.6	0.1	-0.2
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.0	-0.1
SERVICES	5.8	5.8	5.5	0.0	0.3
GOVERNMENT	11.9	12.0	11.9	-0.1	0.0
Federal	5.6	5.7	5.8	-0.1	-0.2
State	1.3	1.3	1.2	0.0	0.1
Local	5.0	5.0	4.9	0.0	0.1

p=preliminary
r=revised

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Research Department, Room 310, Will Rogers Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Phone (405) 557-7260.

U S DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
310 WILL ROGERS BUILDING
2401 NORTH LINCOLN BLVD
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73105-4495

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